

Message Text

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ACTION NSF-02

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FOR NSF HULL FROM SCIATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI RO

SUBJ: NSF/NCST PROGRAM: JOINT APPROVAL OF PENDING PROJECTS

REF: A) STATE 051581 B) BUCH 0729 C) BUCH 0608 D) STATE 027848

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. NCST REPORTS READINESS TO APPROVE ZUCKERMAN/HAIDUC AND LING/
CONSTANTINESCU PROJECTS BUT ADMINISTRATIVELY POWERLESS TO DO SO
UNTIL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GIVES APPROVALS TO PARTICIPATING
INSTITUTION AT MEETING NOW SCHEDULED

MARCH 12. SPEAKING UNOFFICIALLY, MATACHE BELIEVES MINED DECISION
WILL BE FAVORABLE.

2. NSF MAY CONSIDER MEYER/PAVEL PROJECT APPROVED BOTH BY NCST
AND MINED IF FOUNDATION IS WILLING TO CHANGE TITLE FROM "SEMINAR"
TO "MISSION" OR "EXPLORATORY MEETING", OR SIMILARLY CONTRIVED
JARGON IMPLYING THE PARTICIPANTS INTEREST IN DEVELOPING FURTHER
COOPERATIVE RESEARCH. NCST INSISTS CONTENT AND CONDUCT OF PROJECT
WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED BUT COSMETIC REWORDING NECESSARY TO FIT NEW
MINED GUIDELINES WHICH IN EFFECT RELEGATE "SEMINARS" PER SE TO
LOW PRIORITY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LOU. COMMENT: MINED REMAINS AT THE FOCUS OF GOR
EFFORTS IN CARRYING OUT CEAUSESCU'S DIRECTIVES TO "INTEGRATE"
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EDUCATION, NRSEARCH AND PRODUCTION. MINED IN PERPETUAL STATE

OF REORGANIZATION WITH RESULTANT DISORGANIZATION. NCST TRIES BUT USUALLY FAILS TO INFLUENCE TIMING OF MINISTRY DECISIONS REGARDING NSF PROJECTS DESPITE CONTRACTUAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THEM.

4. SCIATT BELIEVES NCST'S APPEALS TO MINED MAY BE STRENGTHENED IN FUTURE IF NSF RESPECTS ITS OWN MARCH 10 DEADLINE AND CANCELS GRANT ACTION ON ZUCKERMAN/HAIDUC AND LING/CONSTANTINESCU PROJECTS FOR FY75. SUCH ACTION WILL GIVE SCIATT AND NCST A TEST CASE FOR DISCUSSION WITH MINED. IF CANCELLATION WERE MADE EFFECTIVE THROUGH FY75, GRANTS COULD BE RENEWED IN EARLY FY76 WITHOUT DAMAGE TO PROJECTS BUT WITH POSSIBLE ADVANTAGE TO ENTIRE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM. RENEWAL POSSIBILITY NEED NOT BE COMMUNICATED TO NCST UNTIL FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH MINED. NSF CONCURRENCE IN THIS MATTER WOULD ENHANCE SCIATT'S CONTINUING ARGUMENTS FOR TIGHTER ADMINISTRATION OF NSF/NCST PROGRAM.

5. RE MEYER/PAVAL: NCST VICE PRESIDENT DRAGULESCU AGREED TO STRENGTHENING SEMINAR PROGRAM IN DISCUSSIONS DURING RIES AND LINDENMEYER VISITS. WE HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO LEARN DETAILS OF NEW MINED DIRECTIVES CREATING OBSTACLES TO SEMINARS BUT ARE CERTAIN THEY ARE SERIOUS AND QUITE INDEPENDENT OF DRAGULESCU'S ATTITUDES. IT IS UNLIKELY NCST WAS CONSULTED IN MINED DECISIONS. SCIATT REQUESTS NSF DISCUSS SITUATION WITH MEYER AND VIEW TO ACCEPTING REWORDED PROPOSAL AT BEGINNING OF FY76. NCST AND MINED COULD BE INFORMED IMMEDIATELY THAT NEW PROPOSAL WOULD BE REVIEWED AT BEGINNING OF JULY. IT SEEMS UNWISE TO US TO ACCEPT MINED TINKERING WITH PROPOSAL IN ADVANCE OF THE FACT, EVEN GIVEN NCST ASSURANCES THAT CHANGES WILL BE TRIVIAL.

6. PLEASE ADVISE NSF DECISION ON PARAS 4 AND 5 ABOVE. END
LOU COMMENT.
BARNES

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